

# RSS / MOS status for 2012-2

- Successfully executed 30+ MOS blocks during 2012-1 – mode in normal operation
- Cutting works fine - switched to IR-laser. Can cut a dozen masks per day if needed. We typically swap masks in/out once per week.
- New less temperature-sensitive MOS holder designed, but not implemented yet due to workshop priorities.

# RSS / MOS status for 2012-2

- Acquisition / mask-alignment software updated during period. Still not ideal (BCAM installation took priority), but we can regularly align field in 10-15 minutes.
- Accuracy of alignment:
  - ~0.3" rms due to guide probe accuracy
  - **Inherent PI-dependent astrometric accuracy crucial!**
  - Stack and seeing constraints
  - 4-6 reference stars recommend
  - Still recommend 1.5" slits

# RSS / MOS status for 2012-2

- Major challenges [apart from RSS throughput]:
  - **Rotation is open-loop on SALT by design** – some AZs quite stable, others need re-alignment taking 6-7 mins after 20-30 mins. (South appears best)
  - We can still improve on speed and accuracy of acquisition
  - New holders will also improve accuracy, but effect not larger than other inaccuracies